



City of Omaha
Jim Suttle, Mayor

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For Immediate Release

Flood Response Update

Monday, 6/20/11

June 20, 2011 –

Assistant Fire Chief Dan Stolinski provided the following information on flood response activities at the daily press briefing:

- The Missouri River water elevation level is currently at 33.54 feet (flood stage is 29 feet). The estimates show by Friday, June 24th, the river will be at 33.4 feet. These estimates are provided by the National Weather Service.
- Riverfront Drive has been closed to traffic at 600 North Riverfront Drive. However, traffic is allowed to access Rick's Boatyard Café from the South and the Bob Kerrey Pedestrian Bridge from the North.
- Modifications are being made at the Burt/Izard pump station due to gates being closed on the river. Construction has begun at this lift station; workers will be installing equipment to reroute materials into the Missouri River.
- Water pooling around the Magellan Tank yard and Nicholas Street areas are being addressed by additional pumps and the initiation of a larger pumping system.
- Work is being done to maintain access to Eppley Airfield via Abbott Drive. Supplemental pumps have been used for this location. Monitoring of the water levels is also continuing along Abbott Drive.
- A Nebraska National Guard Blackhawk helicopter is online to support flood-related efforts at Eppley Airport. Currently, four hundred 1,500 pound sandbags are ready for deployment at the airport.
- The Nebraska National Guard is providing personnel to assist with 24/7 levee inspection. The guardsmen were trained in levee inspection on Friday and worked with the Omaha Public Works Department over the weekend. Starting today, teams of two guardsmen have assumed control of monitoring responsibilities for the entire 13-mile levee.
- Planned activities for the next 24-72 hours include-
 1. Dewatering the Magellan facility will be increased over the next few days with up to 9 large-capacity pumps coming on line.
 2. Installing additional large-capacity pumps and rerouting water in the area of the Burt/Izard pump station.
 3. 24-hour monitoring of the entire levee by the Nebraska National Guard.
 4. Monitoring the areas behind the levees for any water table increases.

The Douglas County Emergency Management Agency has sponsored a website dedicated to the 2011 Missouri River Flood: www.omahaflood.org.

Residents seeking answers to flood-related questions can also call 2-1-1.

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